



NEWS RELEASE

U.S. Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region
For Immediate Release
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U.S. Forest Service joins Cal Fire for 2014 Wildfire Awareness Week

Officials urging residents to be prepared as drought conditions could mean an active wildfire season

VALLEJO, Calif., May 5, 2014 – The U.S. Forest Service and other federal agencies will be joining Cal Fire for a series of events around the state this week to celebrate Wildfire Awareness Week. With drought conditions affecting large parts of the state, including California's 18 national forests, an active fire season is expected.

Monday afternoon, Randy Moore, Regional Forester for the Pacific Southwest Region, will be joining Governor Brown, California Secretary for Natural Resources John Laird, and Cal Fire Chief Ken Pimlott for the Wildfire Awareness Week kick-off event at McClellan Airpark in Sacramento. U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell is expected to join the Wildfire Awareness Week tour at a stop in San Diego on Tuesday.

The 2014 California wildfire season has gotten off to a busy start. The Etiwanda Fire began Wednesday on the San Bernardino National Forest in Southern California and has burned 2,190 acres. The fire is currently 94% contained with full containment expected soon. Firefighters from the U.S. Forest Service and other departments have successfully kept numerous other wildfire starts from growing larger in recent days.

Saturday, May 3 was National Wildfire Preparedness Day sponsored by Firewise and the Fire Adapted Communities Network. U.S. Forest Service personnel joined local Fire Safe Councils and other groups at several events in forest communities across California. For more information on how to make your home and community adapted to wildfire, visit: www.fireadapted.org.

For online campfire permits and other fire prevention information, visit the California Wildfire Coordinating Group's wildfire prevention website at: www.preventwildfireca.org. Available at the same site is information on the award-winning "One Less Spark, One Less Wildfire" campaign. This interagency effort is designed to raise awareness about human-caused fires. Human-caused wildfires, particularly those related to vehicles, are a leading cause of wildfires in California.



The mission of the USDA Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. The Agency manages 193 million acres of public land, provides assistance to State and private landowners, and maintains the largest forestry research organization in the world.

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